

Appl. No. 09/335,363
Amdt. Dated December 15, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of September 15, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 1884-39D (81841.0019)
Customer No. 26021

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

George SHIBATA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/335,363

Confirmation No.: 6398

Filed: June 17, 1999

For: SAMPLE LOADING AND HANDLING
INTERFACE TO MULTIPLE
CHEMISTRY ANALYZERS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Latoya I. Cross

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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December 15, 2004

Date of Deposit

Diane Zynn

Name

Signature

12/15/04
Date

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 15, 2004, please
amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which
begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE TELECOPY/FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Examiner: Latoya I. Cross
Art Unit: 1743

DATE: December 15, 2004

FROM: Barry M. Shuman

TIME:

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER: 13

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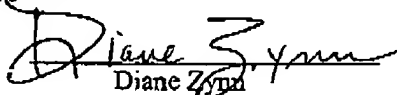
RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/335,363; Attorney Ref: 81841.0019

I hereby certify that the following documents:

- 1.116 Amendment
- Amendment Transmittal Letter

are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, for filing in the above application.

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TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306

CLIENT NUMBER: 81841.0019

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DEC 15 2004

Patent Application No. 09/335,363
Attorney Docket No. 1884-39D (81841.0019)

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Diane Zynn

Name

Signature *Diane Zynn* 12/15/04
Date

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| | (Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | (Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA* | LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE | ADD'L FEE DUE |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|--|------------------|
| TOTAL CLAIMS FEE | 28 | - | 34 | ** | LG=\$18 SM=\$9 | \$ \$ |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE | 2 | - | 2 | *** | LG=\$84 SM=\$42 | \$ \$ |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS | | | | | LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$280 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$140 | \$ |
| Independent Claims: 15 and 28 | | | | | TOTAL | \$ |

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$___ to cover the additional claims fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.☐ A check in the amount of \$___ to cover the extension fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.☒ Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Dated: December 15, 2004

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